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FRANK A. MUNSEY.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1907.

## The Gas Monopoly's Poor Plea.

The ordinarily suave and complacent counsel for the Washington Gas Monopoly permitted his feelings to be ruffled for a moment yesterday. At the hearing before the District Commissioners Attorney R. Ross Perry, for the gas company, pleaded that the Commissioners withdraw their resolution asking suspension of the act permitting the Gas Monopoly to increase its capital stock to absorb the excessive earnings. Mr. Perry made an attack on Corporation Counsel Thomas, and accused him of "stultifying" the Commissioners by suggesting this "unfair" method of preventing this great wrong from being perpetrated upon a helpless people.

Commissioner Macfarland promptly "called" Mr. Perry, stating that the Commissioners had directed the Corporation Counsel to proceed, as his judgment dictated, to care for the interests of the Government and the people, whom the Commission represented, and clearly indicated that Mr. Thomas' action had his approval.

The plea of the gas company was that the matter of determining the right of the company to issue stock millions in excess of an equitable amount should be left to the court under the present law. He urged that the courts would consider the rights of the people under the law.

This, however, is just what Auditor Payne has failed to do. He found that what Congress had in mind was, first, to relieve the gas company from the trouble of frequently applying to Congress for permission to increase its capital stock; next, to relieve Congress from the trouble of considering such applications; and, finally, he said:

"I find a purpose which is consistent with all the provisions of the act, and which is equally consistent with a desire on the part of Congress to benefit the public, and particularly that part of the public for which it was then legislating. I mean the purpose of affording protection to the public or individuals dealing in or with the stock of the corporation."

There you have it. Every one is considered except the consumer. If that is what Congress intended, the people want Congress to say it again, and a little louder, so there can be no mistake.

Congress did not have in mind to shift its plain duty of governing the District of Columbia. If it finds this duty troublesome, and desires to place the responsibility elsewhere, let it put it up to the people of the District to govern themselves.

Corporation Counsel Thomas is right. Congress has no right to shift its administrative duties to the Supreme Court of the District, and the Commissioners are right in asking Congress to suspend this act. Mr. Thomas in replying briefly to the counsel for the gas company recalled the fact that the act as originally introduced was not intended to give to the company power to increase its capitalization, but merely to reduce the gas rate to \$1. Section 5, covering the matter of stock issue, was added in the Senate committee. Congressman Hepburn objected, and predicted that it might operate to make the company's stock 75 per cent water. Mr. Babcock replied that it was too late to object; that if the House did not agree to the act as it was, there would be no rate reduction.

The learned counsel for the gas company dwelt with contempt on what he termed "idle public clamor." Are the people of the District to be deprived of the right of petition? If there is any people on earth that are entitled to free speech and the right of petition it is this people. They have been petitioning—yes, even clamoring—for many years for relief from this hold-up, and the clamor which Mr. Perry holds in "absolute contempt" will continue until relief is afforded.

Mr. Perry dwelt at length upon the property rights of his client. "Whatever values have accrued to it," he argued, "have been lawfully obtained under rates fixed by Congress. Whatever values are now attached to the franchise, good will, etc., are just as much the company's property as anything it owns." He cited the fabulous earnings of the Chemical National Bank of New York as an illustration of the injustice of

attempting to limit the capitalization and earnings of the gas company. Here is the fallacy. The learned counsel for the Gas Monopoly fails to discriminate between a public service corporation given a franchise and the free use of the streets to conduct a monopoly in a necessary of life, and a private business to which attaches no semblance of monopoly, and which cannot be termed a necessary.

## The Truth About the Schools.

The Senate has ordered an inquiry into the situation of the District schools. In a sense this is unfortunate. Few similar investigations have contributed to quiet disorder and make easier the progress of public education in the District. Generally, a better plan would be to legislate after personal study of the situation by the members of the Congressional committee, and according to tried principles of school administration.

But in this case an inquiry will not be without advantage. Much misunderstanding prevails as to present conditions in the schools. Several bills to correct suppositional evils are sure to appear. Investigations by lesser authorities, even if thorough, would hardly obtain full public confidence, and it is almost impossible they should be thorough. But this inquiry will be in the hands of an authority the whole District is bound to respect, and it will preclude further disturbance of the system by agitations in behalf of new measures either in Congress or out.

The author of the resolution of inquiry is Senator Scott. With Chairman Gallinger, chairman of the District Committee, and Senator Burkett, chairman of the Subcommittee on Schools, he has proven in works not only his friendship for the schools, but his openmindedness in dealing with them. Any course upon which these three men agree may be accepted by the District as reasonably calculated to work good in the schools.

Beyond the operations of the Board of Education the committee need hardly go. The present law—subject, perhaps, to a few slight amendments—has proven good. All the disturbance over the superintendency has not interrupted the regular work of the teachers.

The Times has followed the present management of the system closely. It believes that the Board of Education as now organized has done impartial, capable, and resolute service for the good of the children, and no one else, and that it has made great progress toward a businesslike administration of the system. This inquiry, guided by such men as Mr. Gallinger, Mr. Burkett and Mr. Scott, will disclose whether that judgment is based upon fact or not. If it shall prove to be sound, the committee may be trusted to give the board the most valuable help it could hope to have—indorsement and support in Congress. If, however, that judgment is unsound, The Times and every other friend of the schools for the sake of the children wants to know the truth as soon as possible.

## Georgetown Goes Too Fast.

The athletic relations between the two leading collegiate institutions of the District—Georgetown University and Georgetown College—have become a public question. Until Thanksgiving Day, those relations hung upon a demand from Georgetown for an exceptional share of the gate receipts at the great game of the year. Now they have been severed by this same college on a basis wholly different, an allegation that at the Thanksgiving Day meet the Georgetown students offended against good taste. Upon which facts and the assumption that the rivalry between the two schools has become too intense a local contemporary urges that the discontinuance of all athletic encounters between the colleges is good for both.

On the merits of the controversies as such The Times does not presume to pass. The workings of the undergraduate mind are too uncertain. Nor does this paper undertake to say with which side lies the greater blame. But it does suggest that Georgetown's present advantage is one more of strategy than of sportsmanship and that it is extremely doubtful if either institution will profit in any substantial form through the discontinuance of athletic contests.

For Georgetown has taken this step at an extremely unfortunate time for her. Year by year her athletic leadership over George Washington has been lessened. From 60 to 0 her football scores have fallen to 6 to 0, to 0 to 0. At baseball, a sport in which Georgetown students have done their Alma Mater special credit, she was able last year to beat George Washington by only one run. In indoor athletics she has been beaten. This is the stage at which, for another assigned cause, she ceases the contests. Better judgment would have been either to cease them earlier or endure such bad conduct as her rival might in-

flict upon her until the scores became less portentous.

As for George Washington's misconduct at the Thanksgiving Day game, there appears to be no reasonable doubt that her students' offense and ought to be punished. But was the situation so critical that in order to inflict that punishment a college in the shadow of defeat must brave suspicion of its spirit to avoid contamination? Has the offending had the strange quality of being all on one side? Would not a protest from the faculty of the one college to the faculty of the other have accomplished every reasonable result? Or a conference between the athletic councils? Or, best of all, an informal meeting between the presidents?

Finally, every argument in favor of intercollegiate athletics has special force when applied to contests between institutions close at hand. There are no traveling expenses. The interest is particularly likely to enlist the greatest possible number of students in active athletic training. The rivalry can be made the basis for fine practice in self-restraint. And, whether the contests are good or bad, they ought to be discontinued, if at all, on their merits and not because of an offense which is not inseparable from them and can reasonably be safeguarded against in future.

Michigan is a mighty particular State. It is raising a fuss because its governor borrowed \$5,000 from the State treasurer's fund before his election and has only just paid it back. Over in Pennsylvania they don't seem to care when the governor borrows from the State treasury himself and never expects to pay it back.

Woodrow Wilson says the President talks as soon as he thinks. Would he have him talk sooner?

Now it is the Yale team that was helped win its Thanksgiving Day game by prayer. If that worked, we know now how to explain the defeat of a good many other teams.

Maybe that French balloon will break a few records against its will.

Up in Middletown, N. Y., a woman "acted strangely" and was put in jail. We know of cities where the men would find it lonely if all the women who acted strangely were to be locked up.

Why not appoint Tom Lawson to the Wall Street police force?

A steeple-jack hung 150 feet in the air until he nearly froze to death. The anti-imperialists went up in the air eight years ago and have hung there in the cold ever since, and yet make considerable noise.

It's a great cause that can get Jim Hill and Hoke Smith on the same platform.

There is no doubt that a St. Petersburg delegation would be sold for Taft.

## HUNGER FOR HEART.

Silent I stand and watch the old year dying.  
Swirled round my feet the dull red leaves are blown;  
Out the motley hue there comes the sound of sighs,  
Borne on the wind to mingle with my own.  
Ah! How I wish to leap toward her crying.  
Bidding her to stay, if only for a breath.  
But all around I see the seasons flying.  
Down the red path that leads to death.  
Down the long path so faint with scent of roses.  
Old roses, lavender, and mimosa;  
Their enduring scent a world of pain in closing.  
Pain inexorable linked with regret.  
Hunger of heart, old as the world-old sorrow.  
Sweetest—sweet, ye know not what ye seek;  
Only there comes the heartache of the morrow.  
And lips that are dumb in agony to speak.  
—Paul Richards, in Harper's Weekly.

## ARMY PROMOTIONS OPPOSED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

Already there are signs of trouble in the Senate over the confirmation of these army officers who have been promoted by the President by the process of selection and who have been "jumped" over the heads of other officers. Symptoms of impending opposition to confirmation appeared at the meeting of the Senate Military Affairs Committee yesterday afternoon. The committee had asked the nominations of officers who have been advanced over the heads of others. Protests have been filed against the confirmation. The nominations of several army chaplains were also laid aside.

A large number of nominations to which there is no opposition were favorably reported.

## HARVESTER CO. CONVICTED; MAXIMUM FINE \$42,000

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 6.—After an hour's deliberation, the jury in the case of the State against the International Harvester Company yesterday reached a verdict against the company on forty-two counts. The verdict charges the company with being a trust and with entering into a combination to control the price of harvesting machinery. The original suit was on seventy-five counts. Attorneys for the company had asked for a new trial on the maximum penalty which may be imposed is \$1,000 on each count.

## THE PEKING GAZETTE.

The Peking Gazette, the publication of which, according to a recent telegram, has been suspended, is a very venerable patriarch among newspapers, since it is said to have made its first appearance something like 1,300 years ago; but it is not, as often supposed, the oldest journal in the world. This distinction belongs to the Tsing Pao (or Peking News), which was founded nearly twelve centuries ago, and was venerable when its younger rival, the Gazette, was cradled. Indeed, Mr. Huart, French consul at Canton, claims a still earlier birth for the News, which, he says, was founded early in the sixth century, 800 years before a newspaper was known in Europe.

The Tsing Pao, which is the Times of China, now appears as a book of twenty-four pages, octavo size, tied in a yellow cover by two knots of rice paper, and its price is about twenty cents a month. The edition of the Tsing Pao, which is the edition of the Tsing Pao, is a popular edition.

# England With Less Money Has Lower Interest Rates Money in a Nutshell

By Frank C. Harper

NUMBER 6.

It is easy to prove from the statement of the New York city banks since October 19 that the withdrawals of cash from those banks alone since that date have aggregated hardly less than \$125,000,000. For their net holdings of cash between October 19 and November 23 decreased in round numbers \$125,000,000. The Secretary of the Treasury had in the meantime deposited with them the sum of \$100,000,000, and in addition to that they had received no less than \$50,000,000 in gold from Europe. If it should appear that the hoarding had reached an aggregate of \$150,000,000 in this period in New York alone, it would not be surprising. Much of this hoarding has been by rich individuals living in New York, who have reaped a profit by buying stocks at a low price and lending currency at a premium. There has been some hoarding, too, by Western banks, suspicious of Wall Street methods, and deterring them from investing their funds in such large amounts as heretofore to New York until satisfied that the bankers recently ousted there for good and sufficient reasons have been ousted to stay.

To what extent this policy has been followed by interior banks generally cannot be known until their reports are forthcoming. The various States—under an indeterminate time. But official statistics indicating the drift have just come from the center, and it is an important one, no less than Chicago. There the State banks have just made a report, showing reserves amounting to 30.6 per cent of deposits. This is the largest ratio in their history. With withdrawing funds from New York, they have not as yet begun to expand loans to home, but they may be expected to do this as soon as the New York banks have generally resumed cash payments and confidence in the directions is more completely assured.

Why Is New York Blamed? If any one asks us why the disposition of the country to blame New York for financial furies exists, it is pertinent to answer the question by asking another—namely, why is it that New York, which is permitted to manage the finances of the country, manages them with seemingly so much less prudence than the Paris managers those of France, Berlin those of Germany, or London those of England? In those countries it is seldom that the open-market rate for money advances above the normal. Yet the United States witnesses fluctuations of the most violent character.

In 1901, again in 1903, and now, in the midst of abounding confidence and the dust of prosperity business men are disturbed by stock exchange bids for

## PAYS FOR OWNERS WITH STEEL GEMS

Youth Robs Maiden Lane Store and Does Fast Spending.

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Diamonds worth \$10,000, stolen by an eighteen-year-old bookkeeper from the jewelry firm of Rudolph Noel & Co., 37 Maiden lane, furnished the Tenderloin with its latest spectacular spender and put Louis J. Harris in the Tombs prison yesterday.

Harris might still be uncaptured if he had not persisted in paying for dinners at Sherry's and for automobiles in diamonds instead of gold.

Private detectives failed to find Harris, but detectives from headquarters spent only enough time to trace down the young man who was "tipping up things" on the White Way. They arrested Harris in a few hours as he tendered a diamond ring in payment for auto hire at a Ninety-third street garage.

The police say Harris made a complete confession. According to his story, told the police, he met a girl on Broadway one October afternoon who wanted to be taken to the theater. Harris liked her, but had no ready money.

He said he went to the Maiden lane store and stole a small diamond pin from the jewelry tray, to which he had easy access.

The girl went to the theater with him. Afterward, he said, he went to another place and stole a small diamond pin from the jewelry tray, to which he had easy access.

When the girl returned to him, he said, he began drinking heavily, it is said, and began to tender diamonds in payment for his expenses.

When caught he had so far depleted his stolen stock of gems that he was selling pawn tickets to get ready cash.

## GRAFT 1,974 PIECES SKIN TO HEAL WOMAN'S ARM

WESTBORO, Mass., Dec. 6.—One of the most remarkable skin grafting achievements on record has been completed in the arm of J. G. Kestler, when the last of 1,974 pieces of skin was placed on the arm of Mrs. Kestler. All the pieces were taken from the arms and legs of the husband. The operation has lasted more than three months.

Mrs. Kestler was severely burned in a kerosene explosion last July, the right side of her body and her face being left without skin. The entire side is now covered.

## ADOPTS JIM CROW LAW.

GUTHRIE, Okla., Dec. 6.—By a vote of 55 to 10, with four absent, House bill No. 1, known as the "Jim Crow" measure, providing for separate coaches and waiting rooms for races, was passed yesterday. An enthusiastic demonstration accompanied the announcement of the vote.

money ranging anywhere from 15 to 125 per cent.

The reason why these extremes are not seen in other countries is that only in New York are stock speculations permitted to absorb so large a portion of the country's available loan capital at room valuations for the stocks they offer as collateral. At 20, 50, 75, and 100 per cent rates for money are never bid by business men, of course. Only the speculator intends to make as much on 1 or 2 per cent or even 5 per cent on money in a single day, or say, at the rate of from 30 to 1,500 per cent a year. Hence only he can and under any circumstances to bid 10 to 15 per cent a day, or at the rate of 90 to 180 per cent a year, for loans.

## Our Money Trebles England's.

Our periodically fantastic rates for money are all the more significant because with the single exception of France (whose peasantry habitually hoard their savings) the United States has the largest per capita circulation in the world. It trebles that of Great Britain, whose loan rate nevertheless does not average more than 3 per cent and has touched 7 per cent only once since 1873. The difference in volume of stock speculations, in the two countries is not important. Great Britain does the larger foreign trade; we the larger domestic. If there is any difference at all it is too small to explain undisturbed money markets in Great Britain with a total stock of money not exceeding \$200,000,000, and in the United States with a stock of \$3,000,000,000, more than three times as great.

The spectacle of the easiest and most even money market where there is apparently the least money in proportion to the demand, was to be done is one that should make Americans marvel. When we are told that we have enough money in circulation—that we have outgrown our capital—we wonder, looking toward Britain, whether it would not take more than a century to explain and understand the credit strains as infrequent and as mild here as in that country. We had no central bank, no asset currency, and a smaller per capita circulation in 1904 than this year, yet in only six weeks of that year was money quoted on the London exchange at a higher rate than 3 per cent. And business was everywhere prosperous and active. The money market was not in speculation. Next year Wall street was in the saddle again, the sales of stocks exceeding those of the preceding year by 75,000,000 shares of New York alone. And money during the last quarter of the year ranged from 8 to 125 per cent. Must it be so every year, and that perhaps our greatest need for prevention of money market squeezes and their ensuing credit spasms is probably not so much new institutions as new policies, including more discrimination on the part of banks in favor of commercial loans, and less of a purely speculative character?

## CHICAGO LEADS RACE FOR THE CONVENTION

(Continued from First Page.)

motion of Senator Crane, that he be chosen chairman of the committee.

## Committee Gets to Work.

After Mr. New had busily accepted the honor thrust upon him, and told all about what a fine party and committee he thought he belonged to, the committee stopped fooling with words, and appointed the following committees:

Yorke, Streeter and Kellogg, to draw up the form of the call for the next national convention.

Raeburn, Capers, and Lyons, to provide a schedule for electing delegates to the convention from the District of Columbia.

Heyburn and Duncan, to provide a method of electing delegates from Porto Rico and the Philippines.

Murphy, Hill, and Luna, to thank Mr. Certelev for his services as chairman of the committee.

## Poor Cooper Turned Down.

Mr. Cooper, of Wisconsin, then tried to tell his sad story about the probability of Wisconsin being deprived of representation in the convention, owing to a pathetic arrangement of laws and no laws in his State. He was briefly but firmly informed that his grievance might be considered by the committee on call this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, but that the national committee could not bother with it.

Having decided to call on the President this afternoon, the committee adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning to select the time and place for the convention. Then the members of the committee took a long breath and tried to rush through the "boomers," but they failed.

## Wisconsin Demands Chance From Republican Committee

The Wisconsin Republican delegation met last evening at the call of Senator Stephenson and prepared an address to the national committee of laws and its action are expected to occasion something of a sensation. The delegation instructed Representative Cooper to present the national committee a demand that the call for the Republican national convention be so worded that it will give Wisconsin the unquestioned right to be represented by delegates named under the State's primary law.

The proposal to exclude the Wisconsin people from the convention because of the primary law has been under discussion for some time. It is based on the resolution adopted at the time of the national convention, requiring that delegations should be admitted "as selected by Congressional districts and State conventions. This, of course, shuts out delegations selected by primaries, as in Wisconsin.

The statement was signed by all but two of the Republican members, and two will later append their signatures, and Wisconsin Republicans will appear in an unanimous attitude for the first time in years. The statement sets forth the claims of the State to the right to select delegates, under the laws provided for in the constitution, and that there will be a discussion before the national committee which will constitute one of the edifying features of its session.

The Wisconsin people are united and determined, and insist there is no room for compromise.

## WILL PAVE ANACOSTIA STREET.

In response to their communication, calling attention to the delay in removing the street car tracks from Johnson street, Anacostia, the Anacostia Citizens' Association will be informed by the Commissioners that the paving of the street will be undertaken as soon as possible, probably within the next two weeks.

# Anything From Lingerie To Substantial Cow Bell At Dead Letter Auction

Strange, indeed, are the articles to be auctioned off on December 16 by the dead letter office of the Postoffice Department. Probably the place of auction, 426 Ninth street, never beheld such a peculiar conglomeration of toys, books, articles of wearing apparel, jewelry and what not as will be offered there to the highest bidder during the days following the opening of the sale.

The annual sale of the dead letter office always attracts more or less attention. It is the only sale, in the first place, where a person can go with a catalogue, assured that they will be able to ultimately buy exactly what they want if they outbid anybody else. It matters not whether their need is an ivory elephant, a box of candy, or a pipe, they will be sure to find it in some obscure corner of the catalogue.

Apparently, there is nothing that is not offered for sale at this strange annual auction.

## Packages Are Incongruous.

The lists of various packages offered for sale are, to say the least, incongruous. Everything that is offered for sale is sold as it was originally turned upon the patient and long-suffering mail carriers. Nothing is disturbed. Packages which would have seemed to have been gathered from the ends of the earth are offered for sale together.

Among the lists is a complete travel kit of a man's kit, a pair of baby's stockings, a man's necktie, and a cow-bell may be purchased by the citizen who is anxious to say that he has seen a package mentioned to bid upon them. Why a cow bell should be sent with a pair of girl's shoes and a man's necktie is incongruous.

Among the lists is a complete travel-

ing man's outfit, consisting of two neckties, a pair of shoes, three celluloid collars, twenty-four cigars, and a pack of playing cards. What more would a knight of the grip want?

Fifty cigars, a pair of man's suspenders (the book always specifies man's suspenders, although few women wear them nowadays), a bottle of lady's perfume, three lady's handkerchiefs, a man's muffler, and a lady's night gown is another bundle that may be bid for. It is the combination of man's and woman's line and feminine, half of which is useless to either sex.

## Another Strange Assortment.

In another package there is a pipe, five ounces of half-smelling tobacco, "a dime novel," a half-smelling flask, and a deck of cards. With these apparatuses one might make a new start on the road to riches!

Yet these strange packages, ludicrous though they seem to the bidder, are in reality filled with tragedy.

Did not Emily weep out her little heart when her much-coveted slippers (which she had bought for \$1.00) were waiting now, hoping against hope that they have been delayed and will arrive this year, with loving messages from home?

Little does she suppose that irrelevant persons are feeling about the smallness of her feet, and laughing at the efforts of some clumsy clown to wear her tiny slippers.

Even the joyful traveling man awaits the package of "good things" promised him by his friends. Would he not become humorously indignant if he could see the contents of the package?

It seems strange that we are able to buy what another paid for and sent to a friend who was fated never to receive it.

with Mrs. Bloodgood all season and those who had been with her but an hour or so before were filled with sorrow and dismay. No one could account for the death of Mrs. Bloodgood, a woman of such nervousness, probably induced by worry over a poor season, and the fact that a sum of money belonging to Mrs. Bloodgood was tied up in the Knickerbocker Trust Company might have prompted the act.

Many little instances are now recalled, however, tending to indicate that Mrs. Bloodgood had contemplated suicide. Patrick West, the bellboy who heard the shots, answered a call to her room early in the evening. She asked him to mail two special delivery letters, and then she told him to go and get her anything more she could do for him. He told her he would like to see the play, and Mrs. Bloodgood told him to order for two seats on the hotel letterhead, and signed it. While this circumstance does not in itself indicate a plan on Mrs. Bloodgood's part, it is believed the letters contain something that might throw more light on the situation. Mrs. Bloodgood had notified of Mrs. Bloodgood's death, and she was very late for the theater, delaying the performance twenty or twenty-five minutes.

About 11 o'clock yesterday afternoon Manager Dwyer of the Stafford, sent a telegram for Mrs. Bloodgood to her husband, which read:

"Go to my room at the Knickerbocker Trust Company, get the Shubert contract, and take it to Jacobs, Broadway." Coroner Ladd's report of Mrs. Bloodgood's death and gave a certificate of suicide. The body was removed to an undertaking establishment to be prepared for burial.

## Mrs. Bloodgood's Letter To Friend in New York Doesn't Clear Mystery

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Elsie DeWolf, who left the stage to engage in the decorating business, was one of the last persons to whom Miss Bloodgood wrote in New York. Miss DeWolf received the letter yesterday. It was an order for a dressing gown, which the actress had ordered from the Hotel Lorraine. It was couched in business terms, but as the two women were friends, it closed with an affectionate sentence.

There was nothing in the message to indicate that Miss Bloodgood intended to commit suicide. To the contrary, Miss DeWolf, from a perusal of the letter, was of the opinion that the actress was in a happy mood.

## Fitch Hears the News While Writing Her Play

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Clyde Fitch, the playwright, was writing "The Truth," in which Mrs. Bloodgood was starring, when he learned the news that she was terribly shocked when the news was telegraphed to him from the Shuberts' office. He was at work at that moment on a new play for her.

"She was a woman from whom I looked for great things in the future," Mr. Fitch said. "Already she was a success, as actress and playwright. She was a splendid woman, well equipped mentally, and would have taken one of the foremost places on the American stage, I am sure."

## Clara Bloodgood Popular In New York's Smart Set; Public Foresaw Success

NEW YORK, Dec. 6.—Born to a life of luxury, inheriting from her paternal grandfather, Mrs. Ann Stevens Bloodgood, a novelist, dramatist, and actress, Clara Bloodgood had more than the ordinary woman's share of vicissitudes.

At seventeen she eloped with and married William Havemeyer, a relative of the Sugar trust magnate, who died Wednesday. She was a favorite leader in society for some months, but after a couple of years disagreed with her husband and divorced him.

At that time she was the pet of the Four Hundred, and soon afterward she married Jack Bloodgood, Jr., son of a wealthy broker, but when Bloodgood, Sr., died his estate was badly involved, and the young couple was penniless.

The blow was too much for her, and she broke in health he went into seclusion. His wife, however, went on the stage. In 1901 she had her first important part in "The Climbers."

Following season she was with Elsie DeWolf in "The Way of the World," and while this piece was running she met William Laimbeer, a member of the Knickerbocker Trust Company, and they were married. The couple is said to have lived happily, but Mrs. Laimbeer insisted on continuing in her profession, and she was at the head of her own company for some time.

The players who had been associated with Mrs. Bloodgood all season and those who had been with her but an hour or so before were filled with sorrow and dismay. No one could account for the death of Mrs. Bloodgood, a woman of such nervousness, probably induced by worry over a poor season, and the fact that a sum of money belonging to Mrs. Bloodgood was tied up in the Knickerbocker Trust Company might have prompted the act.